

## CLAIMS:

## 1. A transmission device comprising:

an encoder unit for outputting a stream, obtained by receiving and encoding a medium signal, to a transmission line; and

5 a control unit for controlling said encoder unit to change a compression rate thereof and output the stream, when a control signal is received from said transmission line.

## 2. A transmission device comprising:

an encoder unit for outputting a stream, obtained by receiving and encoding a medium signal; and

5 an output control unit for receiving the stream output from said encoder unit, said output control unit performing control, when a control signal is received from a transmission line, to output the stream to the transmission line at a time interval different from a time interval at which the medium signal has been encoded by said encoder unit.

## 3. A reception device comprising:

a decoder unit for decoding a stream received from a transmission line;

5 a buffer unit for storing a medium signal decoded and produced by said decoder unit; and

a control unit for monitoring a storage amount of said buffer unit, said control unit outputting a control signal to said transmission line if the storage amount exceeds or falls below a predetermined threshold.

## 4. A reception device comprising:

a decoder unit for decoding a stream received from a transmission line;

a monitor unit for monitoring a reception status of said  
5 transmission line; and

a control unit for outputting a control signal to said transmission line based on a notification from said monitor unit, if the reception status becomes a predetermined status.

5. The reception device according to claim 4, wherein, when a wireless status of said transmission line indicates a handover from a current wireless area to an adjacent area, said monitor unit notifies the status to said control unit.

6. A transmission/reception device comprising:

a decoder unit for decoding a stream received from a transmission line;

a buffer unit for storing a medium signal, decoded and produced  
5 by said decoder unit;

a first control unit for monitoring a storage amount of said buffer unit, said first control unit outputting a control signal to said transmission line, if the storage amount exceeds or falls below a predetermined threshold;

10 an encoder unit for outputting a stream, obtained by receiving and encoding a medium signal, to said transmission line; and

a second control unit for controlling said encoder unit to change a compression rate thereof and output the stream, when the control signal is received from said transmission line.

7. A transmission/reception device comprising:

a decoder unit for decoding a stream received from a transmission line;

a buffer unit for storing a medium signal decoded and produced  
5 by said decoder unit;

a first control unit for monitoring a storage amount of said buffer unit, said first control unit outputting a control signal to said transmission line, if the storage amount exceeds or falls below a predetermined threshold;

10 an encoder unit for outputting a stream obtained by receiving and encoding a medium signal; and

a second control unit for receiving the stream output from said encoder unit, said second control unit performing control to output the stream to said transmission line at a time interval different from a time  
15 interval at which the medium signal has been encoded by said encoder unit, when the control signal is received from said transmission line.

8. A transmission/reception device comprising:

a decoder unit for decoding a stream received from a transmission line;

a monitor unit for monitoring a reception status of said  
5 transmission line;

a first control unit for outputting a control signal to said transmission line based on a notification from said monitor unit if the reception status becomes a predetermined status;

an encoder unit for outputting a stream, obtained by receiving

10 and encoding a medium signal, to said transmission line; and

a second control unit for controlling said encoder unit to change a compression rate thereof and output the stream when the control signal is received from said transmission line.

9. A transmission/reception device comprising:

a decoder unit for decoding a stream received from a transmission line;

5 a monitor unit for monitoring a reception status of said transmission line;

a first control unit for outputting a control signal to said transmission line based on a notification from said monitor unit if the reception status becomes a predetermined status;

10 an encoder unit for outputting a stream, obtained by receiving and encoding a medium signal; and

a second control unit for receiving the stream output from said encoder unit, said second control unit performing control to output the stream to said transmission line at a time interval different from a time interval at which the medium signal has been encoded by said encoder unit, when the control signal is received from said transmission line.

10. The transmission/reception device according to claim 8 or 9, wherein, when a wireless status of said transmission line indicates a handover from a current wireless area to an adjacent area, said monitor unit notifies the status to said first control unit.

11. A transmission method comprising the steps of:

outputting a stream, obtained by receiving and encoding a

medium signal, to a transmission line; and

performing control to output the stream by changing a  
5 compression rate of said encoding processing, when a predetermined  
control signal is received from said transmission line.

12. A transmission method comprising the steps of:

outputting a stream, obtained by receiving and encoding a  
medium signal; and

when outputting the stream obtained by said encoding to a  
5 transmission line, performing output control of stream, on receipt of  
a predetermined control signal from said transmission line, so that the  
stream is output to said transmission line at a time interval different  
from a time interval at which the medium signal has been encoded.

13. A reception method comprising the steps of:

decoding a stream received from a transmission line; and

monitoring a storage amount of a buffer unit, in which a medium  
signal obtained by the decoding is stored, and outputting a control  
5 signal to said transmission line, if the storage amount exceeds or falls  
below a predetermined threshold.

14. A reception method comprising the steps of:

decoding a stream received from a transmission line; and

monitoring a reception status of said transmission line and  
outputting a control signal to said transmission line, if the reception  
5 status becomes a predetermined status.

15. The reception method according to claim 14, wherein, when a  
wireless status of said transmission line indicates a handover from a

current wireless area to an adjacent cell, the control signal is output to said transmission line.

16. A transmission/reception method comprising the steps of:

decoding a stream received from a transmission line;

monitoring a storage amount of a buffer unit, in which a medium signal obtained by the decoding is stored, and outputting a control  
5 signal to said transmission line, if the storage amount exceeds or falls below a predetermined threshold;

outputting a stream obtained by receiving and encoding a medium signal, to said transmission line; and

performing control to change a compression rate of said  
10 encoder unit and output the stream, when the control signal is received from said transmission line.

17. A transmission/reception method comprising the steps of:

decoding a stream received from a transmission line;

monitoring a storage amount of a buffer unit, in which a medium signal obtained by the decoding is stored, and outputting a control  
5 signal to said transmission line, if the storage amount exceeds or falls below a predetermined threshold;

outputting a stream obtained by receiving and encoding a medium signal; and

performing output control of stream, when the control signal is  
10 received from said transmission line, so that the stream is output to transmission line at a time interval different from a time interval at which the medium signal has been encoded.

18. A transmission/reception method comprising the steps of:
- decoding a stream received from a transmission line;
  - monitoring a reception status of said transmission line and outputting a control signal to said transmission line if the reception
  - 5 status becomes a predetermined status;
  - outputting a stream obtained by performing encoding processing for a medium signal; and
  - changing a compression rate of the encoding processing and outputting the stream, when the control signal is received from said
  - 10 transmission line.
19. A transmission/reception method comprising the steps of:
- decoding a stream received from a transmission line;
  - monitoring a reception status of said transmission line and, if the reception status becomes a predetermined status, outputting a
  - 5 control signal to said transmission line;
  - outputting a stream, obtained by receiving and encoding a medium signal; and
  - performing output control of stream, when the control signal is received from said transmission line, so that the stream is output to
  - 10 said transmission line at a time interval different from a time interval at which the medium signal has been encoded.
20. The transmission/reception method according to claim 18 or 19, wherein, when a wireless status of said transmission line indicates a handover from a current wireless area to an adjacent cell, the control signal is output to said transmission line.

21. A program causing a computer, which constitutes a transmission device, to executes the processing of:

outputting a stream obtained by receiving and encoding a medium signal, to a transmission line; and

5 performing control to output the stream by changing a compression rate of the encoding processing when a predetermined control signal is received from said transmission line.

22. A program causing a computer, which constitutes a transmission device, to execute the processing of:

outputting a stream obtained by receiving and encoding a medium signal; and

5 when transmitting the stream after encoding, performing output control of stream, on receipt of a predetermined control signal from a transmission line, so that the stream is output to said transmission line at a time interval different from a time interval at which the medium signal has been encoded by the encoding processing.

23. A program causing a computer, which constitutes a reception device receiving a stream transmitted from a transmission device to a transmission line, to execute the processing of:

decoding a stream received from said transmission line; and

5 monitoring a storage amount of a buffer unit, in which a decoded medium signal is stored, and outputting a control signal to said transmission line, if the storage amount exceeds or falls below a predetermined threshold.

24. A program causing a computer, which constitutes a reception



device receiving a stream transmitted from a transmission device to a transmission line, to execute the processing of:

decoding a stream received from said transmission line; and

5        monitoring a reception status of said transmission line and output a control signal to said transmission line, if the reception status becomes a predetermined status.

25. A transmission device that receives information data, including audios and/or images, as an input, performs encoding processing of the input data, creates distribution data and distributes the distribution data via a wired and/or wireless transmission line, said transmission  
5    device comprising:

means for controlling an output in such a way that, when a predetermined control signal is received from said transmission line, a compression rate of the encoding processing is changed or the distribution data is output at a time interval different from a time  
10   interval at which the input data has been encoded by the encoding processing.

26. A reception device comprising means for receiving and decoding the distribution data distributed from the transmission device according to claim 25 to said transmission line, said reception device further comprising means for monitoring a status of a storage amount of a  
5    storage device in which the received data is stored or a status of reception from said transmission line and, based on the monitor result, transmitting the control signal to said transmission device via said transmission line.

27. A transmission/reception system comprising the transmission device according to claim 25 and the reception device according to claim 26.

28. An image data transmission device comprising:

an encoder that outputs image encoded data obtained by receiving and encoding an image signal; and

a control unit for performing control such that, when a control  
5 signal is received from a transmission line, the encoder is caused to change a compression rate thereof to output the image encoded data to said transmission line or the image encoded data is output to said transmission line at a time interval different from a time interval at which the image encoded data has been encoded by said encoder.

29. An image data reception device comprising:

a decoder for decoding image encoded data received from a transmission line;

a buffer for storing an image signal, obtained through the  
5 decoding by said decoder; and

a control unit for outputting a control signal to said transmission line, based on a storage amount of said buffer or a monitor result of a reception status of said transmission line.